

An information Magazine for the International Community in Kochi

在住外国人のための生活情報冊子「Tosa Wave」 68号 (2017年12月発行) 発行: (公財) 高知県国際交流協会

Traditional crafts are made from the materials produced in the local area, using traditional methods and the craftsperson's technique."

Kochi Prefecture has many traditional crafts, generally termed Tosa-[something], including Tosa Washi (Paper), Tosa Kawara (Tosa Roof Tiles), Tosa Shikkui (Tosa Plaster), Tosa Kodai-nuri (Tosa Lacquering), Tosa Dako (Tosa Kites), Tosa

Binchotan (Tosa Charcoal). Many of these crafts involve traditional technologies that have been passed down for over 1000 years, and support Kochi's exceptional traditional industries.

This time we would like to introduce *Tosa Hamono* (Tosa Blades) and *Hoseki Sango* (Precious Coral). Whilst looking back at the history of these crafts, we went in search of the special works of the craftspeople that make them.

"Kochi's Traditional Crafts: Tosa Hamono(Tosa Blades)/ Precious Coral"





る伝統技術もあり、高知の誇れる伝統産業を支えています。

今回は、"上佐打力物"と "宝石珊瑚" を紹介します。それぞれの歴史をたどりながら、匠たちのこだわりの逸品を探しに行ってきました。

Off to Tosa Yamada to find out more about Tosa Blades

Kochi Kencho CIR Teo Valerie

There are many different kinds of blacksmith shops in Kochi, producing anything from sickles and saws to knives and axes. Various essential tools supporting Kochi's forestry industry have been made by these blacksmiths, and Tosa-hamono (lit. "Tosa Blades") is famous for these tools.

Our destination today was a blacksmith shop just a few minutes by car from the Tosa Hamono Exchange Center in Kochi Prefecture's Kami-shi Tosayamadacho, past the expansive greenhouses growing spring onions and chives. There, Mr. Satoshi Yamashita, a craftsman well-versed in the traditional art of Tosa Uchi-hamono, was in the process of making a sickle.

We asked Mr. Yamashita, a professional blacksmith, about the Tosa-hamono. According to Mr. Yamashita, these Tosa sickles were actively exported, mainly to Southeast Asia, up till thirty years ago. However,

orders from overseas have been drastically declining in recent years due to mechanical development. Furthermore, the tradition of using wood within homes for things such as heating up the bath, is also disappearing. With this decrease in wood usage, the demand for cutting down trees is also being lost. Therefore, the need for handmade blades, including sickles is decreasing. However with regards to knives; orders are coming from countries such as Germany and America, because of the listing of Japanese cuisine as one of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritages in 2013. Recognition towards handmade bladed tools has been changing, partially owing to the influence of Japanese cuisine.

We asked Mr. Yamashita, "Which bladed tool sells the best in an era where the need for these tools is disappearing?" to which the answer was, "Kitchen knives." He brought up the Tsukiji Fish Market in Tokyo, which had been showcased on local television, and said with pride, "That fish knife is a Tosa-made knife." The appeal of Tosa-hamono is in the sharpness of the blade, which is why these black, double-edged blades are popular with men. Even so, the fact is that even Tosa-hamono kitchen

"土佐打刃物"を訪ねて土佐山田へ 高丸県CIR テオ ヴァレリー



The first step in making a sickle: wedge steel in between the iron, melt it in a forge that is of 1000 degrees Celsius, and hit it with a hammer.

香葉市上生を特別ではいると主佐刃物流通センターから 香葉の大きない。 「本で数分。あたり一面に広がるやっこねぎやニラのビニールハウスの中を造り抜け目指したところに、一軒の鍛冶屋があった。主佐打刃物の伝統工芸士である山下哲史さんが鎌を作っている最中だった。

機械化のあおりを受け海外向けの注文は大幅に減っている。家庭でも薪でお風名を焚き上げるというような習慣もなくなり、木が利用されることもなくなり、木を切る必要性も失われている。手づくりの鎌生産は減ってきているのが現状である。だが、包丁に関して言うと、2013年ユネスコ無形文化遺産に "和食"が登録されたのをきっかけにドイツやアメリカなどから注文がきている。和食効果もあり手作りの刃物についての認識が変化してきている。」という。

そこで、当片さんに質問した。「いろいろな刃物が不要になっている時代ですが、一番売れている刃物は何ですか?」答えは、やはり「包丁」だった。ある民放テレビで放送されていた東京築地の話を取り上げ、「あの魚包丁は、土佐もんやった。」と誇らしげに話した。土佐刃物のだり最は、何といっても切れ味の良さ。男性には、黛の諸刃が人気の理由である。とはいえ、土佐刃物のの気丁も売れにくいのが現状。「家庭では、外食も多多とはいえ、土佐刃物のの気丁も売れにくいのが現状。「家庭では、外食も多多

knives are not selling well. People who cook at home tend to prefer stainless steel kitchen knives, and they also like to eat out. Stainless steel

does not rust and thus can be used as and when one likes, and because they are cheap they can be disposed of when they are no longer sharp. On the other hand, Tosa-hamono rust easily and require maintenance on a regular basis. Even though they cut much better than stainless steel knives, their users are limited to professional chefs or those who go fishing as a hobby.

When asked about the appeal of hamono, Mr. Yamashita answered, "Nowadays, the stainless steel knives sold at supermarkets are made in a factory where they are produced in large quantities using molds. Thus, they all look the same and do not have individuality. However, Tosa-hamono are all handmade, and therefore each blade is unique. The blacksmiths are able to answer to their customers' needs, adjusting the blade's thinness or thickness, part by part. Furthermore, through

the process of forging, the blade's internal structure is atomized, making it sharper. Since everything is handmade, mass production is not possible. That is the biggest difference between Tosahamono and stainless steel knives."

"How do you think the future of Tosa-hamono looks?" we asked. He said that Tosa-hamono have already taken on a nearperfect shape as they have a history to them, having been through the hands of many smiths. The shapes of blades are similar throughout the world, but the shapes of tools used for agriculture or forestry differ from country to country, and region to region. By making use of the knowledge that they have cultivated while accepting requests for specific orders for sickles, these smiths will continue making their blades carefully so as to live up to their customers' standards.

These tools, created carefully one at a time by a single blacksmith from their initial metal state, are being recognized by people from overseas. We could sense the flow of time and loneliness from Mr. Yamashita's words as he said, "People's way of life has changed with regards to agriculture and forestry." Yet we could also feel the collective weight of the Tosa people's tradition as he added, "Work that requires cutting things will never go away."

In Tosa Yamada there is the warmth and comfort of a blacksmiths forge. We hope to visit again, to meet once more with such an interesting character.

く、料理をするがでもステンレス製の包丁を好む。ステンレスは錆びたりしないから、気軽に使えるし、お値段も安めで切れ味が悪くなったらかの

「対物のを対しな何ですか?」の質問に、「いま、スーパーで売られているステンレス製包丁は、工場でクッキーのように型取りされ大量生産されていて、どれ一番で個性がない。ただし、土佐対物はすべて一つ当初で作られており、世界でたった一つしかないと、カヤーである。お客様のニーズにこたえ、刃物の厚さや影響である。お客様のニーズにこたえ、刃物の厚さや影響である。すべてが手作り、世界でたったである。すべてが手作り、大量生産できない。鍛錬することにより組織が大きな違い。」と答える。

「土佐 対物の展望を聞かせてください」という質問に対し、「土佐 対物には歴史があり、多くの匠の手を通して、ほぼ完べきな形になっている。 対物の形は、世界中地とどこも同じような形だが、農業や山林の道具は、国や地域によって形が違う。 鎌作りのこれまで培ってきた "細かい注文を受けることができる"というノウハウを生かして、これからもお客様の注文に添えるよう、今までと変わらず丁寧に対物作りをしていきたい」という。

一人の鍛冶屋が鉄から丁寧に作り出すった一つ一つの道 具が、海外の人に受け入れられている。「農業や山林に対する生活様式が変わってきたから…」という山下さんの言葉に時代の流れとはいえ寂しさを感じたが、「物を切るという作業は消えない」という土佐の人たちが積み上げてきた伝統の重みも感じた。

そこには、鍛冶場の温もり、居心地の良さがある。 また、その人柄に触れるため、土佐山田を訪れたい。



Finishing touches are made to the raw blade with a grinder before quenching it in water.

焼き入れ前にグラインダーを使って生仕 上げ



Information gathered at the Kochi Prefecture Coral Association

Kochi Kencho CIR Cho Keiketsu

Have you ever heard of a coral wedding anniversary? It's the 35th anniversary of a wedding. Why not gift a coral product to your parents on the day? People may think of accessories and jewelry when coral products are mentioned, but they are actually used in various ways depending on application and through blending Japanese and Western influences, such as good luck charms, ornaments, tea caddies used for tea ceremonies, incense burners, Buddha statues, and picture frames. What makes coral attractive is that it lives in the deep sea and grows slowly, with some varieties taking up to 50 years to grow one centimeter, and it is also beloved because of its rarity. Additionally, because of the fact that coral grows by absorbing free-swimming coral larvae, it can be said that it is a natural work of art. There are no two identical corals as they are made within the natural cycle.

~Off to the auction~

The day we went to collect information, it happened to be the day of the monthly auction. We took a peek at the auction with great interest. In the morning, each product is examined closely. In the afternoon, each buyer is handed a small well-worn handbook and the auction begins. Each person writes their bid in the handbook, and hands it to the organizer. The organizer then yells out "Kaihyou (open the ballot)!!!" along with the

宝石珊瑚 高知県珊瑚協同組合にて 高知県CIR 張 慧杰

~いざ、入札現場へ~

さて、取材当日は、ちょうど月に一回の入札の日でした。私たちも興味津々で入札会の風景を覗きました。午前中は、製品をじっくり見比べる時間です。午後、バイヤー一人一人へ、名前入りの年季の入った小さな手帳を配り入れ開始。自分の価格を手帳に書き、全催者に投げ込みま

name of the person with the highest bid. This results in completion of the bid. There are people who bid a high price for an item they particularly want, people who are able to buy something for a surprisingly low price, and there are people who can only sigh as the item they want is taken by another person. In this way, there is no set market price for coral. However, red coral has become popular in the last 20 years or so. The deeper the color, the more it catches the buyer's attention.

~History of coral and its future~

The history of Japan's precious coral began in 1812, when a local fisherman happened to pull up some coral and gifted it to the local feudal lord. From then on, coral fishermen and coral artisans have coexisted naturally and the traditional techniques have been passed down from generation to generation. At the same time, people who have come to own precious coral have handed it down from generation to generation as well, and they have had artisans polish their coral item over the years as they treasure it along with their memories.

Currently, however, there is a shortage of coral artisan successors. One of the undertakings to combat this is the Tosa Coral Festival which occurs from late February to early March at the Kochi Tourist Information Center, Tosa Terrace. By displaying award winning works from the Coral Masterpiece Contest, it arouses interest in coral among young people, and it provides encouragement to the artisans. There were 130 to 150 works last year, and over 2500 visitors came, including those from Taiwan, China, and Korea. It is a great chance to spread information about the wonders of coral to many people, and it is an opportunity to study manufacturing techniques and artistry for artisans.

Painting the healing powers of coral raised in Kochi's nature: Japanese painter, Akemi Ochi

I can't believe there are ways to use coral other than for accessories. That surprise was our first impression. "I'm painting pictures by borrowing power from coral. It's because Kochi's beautiful ocean exists. The color and texture of coral contains healing properties for people," says Ms. Ochi. Ms. Ochi's works involve various materials such as silver leaf and vivid colors, and they all come together beautifully. Ground coral provides a refreshing warm hue on top. This is a traditional technique used in Japanese paintings, and although it is common to use ground natural minerals as painting material, Ms. Ochi uses materials home-

made from refined Kochi coral instead of store-bought materials. This is all pasted on with a glue called "nikawa". The lumpy texture of actual coral has a spatial effect, and makes the entire art piece stand out. In addition to this, it is said that the color of coral does not fade much over the years. The contrast with materials such as silver leaf, which changes color over time, is beautiful because of this.

Why Ms. Ochi started to use coral as art material

According to Ms. Ochi she thought, "In Kochi, there is beautiful coral nurtured by nature, but I think the people of Kochi might not realize how precious it is because it is so common to them. I want to let more people know about the beauty and value of coral," and so decided to refine natural ground coral. However, knowledge of coral refining was limited, and Ms. Ochi, who is from outside of the prefecture, did not know any artisans specializing in coral sculpting. But when she purchased an earring from a jewelry store, she boldly requested, "Please introduce me to the artist who made this," and was able to connect with an artisan and learn the basics of coral refining. That artisan still comes to her exhibits even today. What is considered common sense in sculpture circles is not common sense in Japanese painting circles. Ms. Ochi crosses genres, taking in the best of both worlds, and disseminates information as she works to further Kochi's coral culture.



遭いほどバイヤーの首を引きます。

にほん ほうせきさんで れきし 日本の宝石珊瑚の歴史は、1812年室戸沖で偶然地元漁師が引き上げ たものを領主に献上したことから始まります。その後、珊瑚漁師や珊瑚 なに えん ほうせききんご て かたがた だいだいう つ なんねん た しょくにん 何かの縁で宝石珊瑚を手にした方々も代々受け継ぎ、何年経っても職人 に磨き直してもらいながら思い出と共に大切に使われているのです。

す。主催者の「開票!!!」の大きなー声で、一番高値を付けた人の名前をまた。 またいる。主催者の「開票!!!」の大きなー声で、一番高値を付けた人の名前をまた。 またいる。 読み上げます。それで入札成立。想像以上に高値をつけたり、びっくり

する程安く購入できたり、質を付けていたものが他人に取られて溜め息

をつく人もいます。そのように、珊瑚には染まった相場がありません。

ただし、ここ20数年の人気は、なんといっても赤色珊瑚。色が濃ければ

しかし、現状としては後継者不足の問題もあります。その取り組みの でしてい、主性のさんごまつりが毎年2月下旬から3月上旬まで「高 まかんこうじょうほうはっしんかん 知観光情報発信館とさてらす」で開催されています。珊瑚名作コンテス トの入選作品を展示することで、若者の珊瑚に対する興味を引き出し、 職人さんの仕事への励みとなります。昨年は130点から150点の作品が あり、台湾、中国、韓国を含め2500人の来場者を迎え、多くの方々に珊 でありは、はっしん 瑚の魅力を発信でき、職人にとっては加工技術や芸術性などを勉強でき る良いチャンスとなっています。

高知の自然に育まれた 珊瑚の癒しを絵に

サール゙ー 珊瑚に、アクセサリー以外の使い道があるなんて。と いう驚きが私たちスタッフの最初の感想でした。「私は珊 。 瑚のパワーを借りて、絵を描かせてもらっている。高知の ララン - ラダ 美しい海があってのもの。珊瑚の色合いや質感は、人を癒 すちからを秘めている」という越智さん。越智さんの作品 は、いぶされた銀箔やビビッドな色彩などさまざまな素材 がハーモニーをなす。そこに、ほっとする温かみのある彩 りを重ねているのが、珊瑚の粒(珊瑚末)です。古くから の日本画の技法で、画材として天然鉱物を粉砕して使うこ とがあるが、越智さんの作品に使われているものは、市販

されている画材ではなく高知の珊瑚から精製した自家製のもの。これを、

のりとなる「にかわ」で接着するのだが、オリジナルだから こそ、さんごのゴロっとした粒感が残るほど立体感があり、 $_{k}^{*}$ の画面全体を際立たせる。また、珊瑚は経年による色の変 ゕ゚ゕ゠゚゙゙゙゙゙゙゙゙゙゚゚ゕ゠゚゙゚゙゙゙゙゙゙゚゚゚゚゚゙゚ 化が少ないという。だからこそ、年月が経ったときに銀箔な どの風合いが変わっていく素材との対比が美しい。

Ms. Ochi and Cho CIR

越智さんと張CIR

Refined ground coral. Even from the same coral, you can see that many colors depending on particle size can be made.

サホッサッ 精製した珊瑚末。同じ珊瑚 からでも粒子の大きさによ り多様な色ができることが 。 分かる

高知の珊瑚を画材として使用するきっかけ

こうち 「高知には自然に育まれた美しい珊瑚があるのに、高知の人 にとってはあまりにも身近すぎて、その尊い価値に気づいて いないのかもしれない、この魅力を広めたい」と思い立ち、天 ねんさん ごまつ せいせい けつい 然珊瑚末の精製を決意したという。しかし精製のノウハウは とほう はんがいしゅうしん おっち さんこうほうこく しょくにん ちじん 乏しく、県外出身の越智さんに珊瑚彫刻の職人の知人はいな かった。そこであるジュエリー店で珊瑚のピアスを購入した とき、「これを作った作家さんを紹介してください」と大胆に頼 んだのが縁となり職人さんと繋がりを持ち、珊瑚末の精製の いろはを学んだ。その職人さんは、今でも個展などに顔を出 してくれる。彫刻界のあたりまえ≠日本画界のあたりまえだ そうで、分野という道根を越えて、良いものは取り入れ、情 はう まきかり こうち さんこぶんか はってん 報を共有しながら高知の珊瑚文化を発展させていっている。

How ground coral is refined

The refining of ground coral involves numerous steps. Sort coral according to color—crush into pieces—grind finely—remove iron powder—cleanse with chemicals—sort particles using a water drying method—dry and complete. Subtly different colors can be made, such as

deep pink from blood red coral, and a soft beige-like color from white coral. It took over two years of research and instruction from artisans and college professors to arrive at this process. When asked, "Isn't it a lot of trouble to refine coral, with all the time and work spent?" Ms. Ochi replied, "No, it's fun. It's exciting to just grind the coral using a mortar and pestle!" The refinement of coral seems like very tedious work considering it takes a long time to grind the hard coral and how the color can be affected by the surrounding environment, but from hearing Ms. Ochi, it sounds like the work doesn't bother her and that there is love in the refinement process.

Telling the tale of the importance of Kochi's nature to younger generations

Through exhibitions and workshops both in and out of the country, Ms. Ochi says she wants people to feel the grandeur, beauty, and preciousness of Kochi's nature where coral is nurtured. She says she wants to create opportunities to discover the beauty of coral for people who haven't realized it yet, and wants them to feel the healing powers of coral.

Ochi Akemi Website http://www.ochiakemi.com/profile

らかいベージュのような色味の粒など、微妙な色の違いができるという。この過程ができるようにななが研究をも成れている。 この教授の指導のもと、2年間研究をするた。「精製は手間もかかって大変じゃないです。 さんごを引動しいんです。 さんごを引動しいんです。 さんごを引動は適いので粉砕に時間がかかったり、 間りの環境にもでいる。 またりと、非常に繊細だそうだが、 越齢が増える。 またりと、非常に繊細だそうだが、 越齢が増える。 でいる。 またいと、非常に繊細だそうだが、 がいるようだった。



"Wind of coral" The warm wind rising up from the back of the woman is painted with color from ground blood red coral

『珊瑚の風』女性の背後を上昇する あたたかい風はチアカ珊瑚を粉砕して作った色である

こうち たいしがん らき かかせん しんこう ちゅう たい 世代につむぐ

越智明美ウェブサイト http://www.ochiakemi.com/profile

Kochi Lifestyle Q&A: What are the traffic rules for bicycles? Han Jeong Gyu, Kochi Kencho CIR

高知の生活Q&A「自転車の交通ルールは?」

こうちけん はん じょんぎゅ **高知県CIR 韓 正圭**

It has now been 2 years since I came to Japan. One area where I felt the cultural difference was with "bicycles". (I come from South Korea). I saw people of all ages and genders riding bicycles in their daily lives, and felt that Japan was like a kingdom of bicycles. Furthermore, by riding a bicycle in my everyday life, I understood that there were many rules regarding their use. Therefore, this time I would like to introduce the rules for cycling in Japan- the kingdom of bicycles- for those like me who may not have normally cycled back in their home country, or for those for whom the rules differ to those in their culture.

Firstly, the main premise of these rules is that bicycles are the same as cars. For those of you who ride bicycles, please don't forget that a bicycle is a type of vehicle, and thus always be careful to give pedestrians the right of way when you cycle!

I will now explain some of the rules: 1) as bicycles are the same as cars, it is forbidden to drink alcohol and then cycle. Furthermore, 2) Cycling side by side and 3) More than one person on the same bicycle, is prohibited. Even if you wish to stay close together, make sure to leave a safe distance between bicycles. 4) Cycling with an umbrella and 5) using a cell phone whilst cycling is dangerous, so please refrain from doing it. Umbrella stands are not against the law, however if it's windy then it will become difficult to cycle so I recommend a raincoat. 6) Once it becomes dark you must turn on your bicycle light. Finally, 7) cycling with headphones is prohibited.

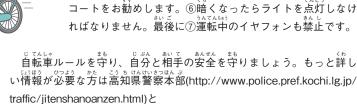
Let's all keep the rules of cycling, and look out for each other's safety. For more detailed information please look at the following link from the Kochi Police Website, as well as Article 63 of the Road Traffic Act.

(http://www.police.pref.kochi.lg.jp/traffic/jitenshanoanzen.html)

日本に来て2年。私の国との違いを感じたところの中で一つは「自転車」でした。(ちなみに私は韓国出身です)老若男女問わず、日常生活で自転車に乗ることを見て、まるで日本は自転車に乗ることを見て、まるで日本は自転車を利用するだけに、様々な自転車のルールがあることも分かりました。それで今回は、私のように母国ではあまり自転車に乗らなかった方や母国とは違うかも知れない自転車ルールを知らない方のため、自転車王国日本のルールをご紹介したいと思います。

まず、自転車は車と同じということがルールの大前提だと憩います。 自転車に乗る皆さん、自転車も車の一種ということを忘れずに、いつも 場合とできまった。

それではルールを一部ご紹介します。①自転車はは車とが同じですので、飲酒運転はもちろん禁止です。また、②二分では正差る並行運転と③二人乗りも禁止です。少しも離れたくない人だとしても、自転車に乗る時には距離を置きましょう。④傘差し運転と⑤運転中のケータイは危ないのでやめましょう。ただ、近極との変化はルール違反ではありませんが、風が吹いたら自転車を運転しにくくなりますので、レインコートをお勧めします。⑥暗くなったらライトを点灯しなければなりません。最後に⑦運転中のイヤフォンも禁止です。



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